

THE MICHIGAN LIBRARIAN

December
1944

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MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 10

NUMBER 4

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**You Want to Know About the
PRESIDENTS**

By Auburn S. Cunningham

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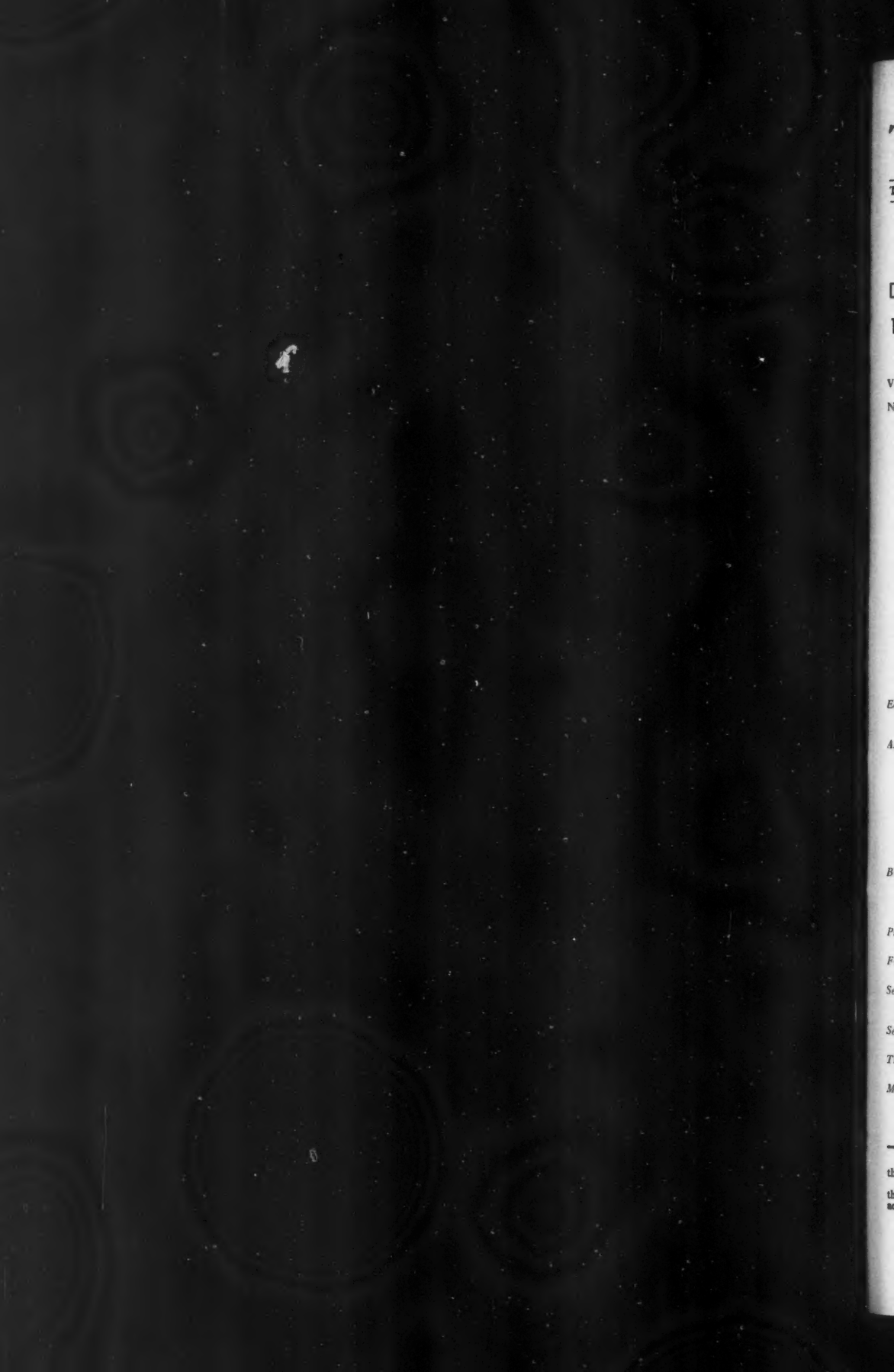
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THE MICHIGAN LIBRARIAN

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Marion Packard Trustee Fund

From her own experience Miss Marion Packard well knows how much a trustee can mean to a library. The community library at Flushing and the Genesee County Library are largely the result of her untiring interest and belief in public libraries. Fortunately her interest does not stop at this level. She took an active part in the affairs of the Michigan Library Association and served not only as a district officer but also as a member of the Executive Board. The Trustees Section had the good fortune of having her as an officer for several years. These connections are severed as she becomes a resident of California.

Believing that the development of a strong state-wide group of trustees is essential if our libraries are to go forward, Miss Packard offered to the Association a fund of two thousand dollars to be used in furthering a trustee program. The Executive Board accepted the gift on October 28, 1944 and set up the Marion Packard Trustee Fund.

The establishment of this trustee fund offers a unique opportunity to the Association to make substantial progress. The probability of progress is enhanced by having as officers of the Trustees Section a group intent on showing results. Mrs. William Parker, chairman of the section, said, "I feel as if the robe of Elijah has descended on me." She is already beginning a state-wide campaign to interest trustees in the Association. This is a matter of concern not only to the Executive Board and to the Trustees Section. It is the responsibility of all of us to show that we merit the confidence placed in us by Miss Packard. Let us not fail her!

A PUBLIC LIBRARIAN LOOKS AHEAD

by ALICE M. FARQUHAR

Address before the
Michigan Library Association Conference
October 28, 1944

Abridged by the Editor

ONE of Dostoevski's characters in *Brothers Karamazov* says, "Men reject the prophets and slay them, but they honor those whom they have slain." Inasmuch as I prefer living to any amount of posthumous honor, I shall refrain from being too radical in this forward look. That won't be difficult as I'm not one of those who puts his trust in demobilization and feels that the veterans returning from the war zone and the millions discharged from industry will swarm to the library or feel eager to study the classics for aid in adjustment.

Camp librarians report that the G.I.'s want their libraries, when they get back, to have such things as glass brick walls, comfortable chairs, a fireplace, smoking privileges, records with earphones, sound-proof rooms, talking books for the uneducated, discussion groups, musicals and clubs of all kinds. This sounds Utopian. Some of us will be retired before the library becomes that unrecognizable. However, if we stay eight or ten years longer we may see radical changes.

There are three reasons why I feel confident in that prediction. First is our rapidly changing philosophy of librarianship; second is the pressure of events and the plethora of problems that demand solution; third is the great modern emphasis on planning. Ten years ago if you had been asked to describe the public library you would probably have said it was an agency for the selection and distribution of print, a medium of recreation, a research institution, and an educational agency. You would have had popular support in listing them in that order. Today our thinking about the function of the library has so changed that we think of it first as an educational institution and are vastly less interested in its research possibilities. In our thinking we are putting the emphasis on popular education and visualize the library

as a community information center co-operating with every cultural and social program of the community. We are putting the emphasis on the individual while at the same time we realize the necessity for mass education on the issues of great and urgent importance. This thinking presages the fact that our future planning and programs will be guided by our respect for the dignity of man and be concerned with the individual man and his needs. It presages departmental libraries with specialists in charge, opportunities for individual counseling and orientation rooms. It means we will forever give up the idea of supplying every demand and devote most of our book fund to educational purposes. It means we must learn how to discover the needs of the people and set up our machinery accordingly.

This accent on the individual means that libraries must be better informed on the science of education. They must realize that disconnected experiences are not educational and must plan continuity in reading experience. The fact that education is a social process to the extent that social surroundings have a definite effect on the educational process, will make the librarian of the future more aware of the importance of the physical and social character of his institution.

Our developing philosophy also enables us to see our activities in relation to those of other agencies. We will change from a passive to an aggressive agency, a positive force in the community, an institution with a duty to project its personnel, its materials, and its organization into the general life of the community. This attitude means that in the future we will take more seriously the task of assuming responsibility for determining what adults should think about and devote more of our energy to developing good citizens. We are saying now that when the war is won it will be human nature for soldiers

and planners to slump, and that it will be our difficult and probably thankless task to spur them on to the more difficult battle of winning the peace.

We deserve some credit for having this new philosophy, but some change and much of our progress are being forced upon us by outside influence and demand. Historians, scientists, statesmen, and specialists have been publicly asserting that creating a desire for the right kind of world can most effectively be done with books; and we are the world's custodians of books. The government's faith in us is a continual stimulant. We are constantly being urged to do all in our power to contribute to the public understanding of the issues of the day. The pressing needs of the time have been a great spur to experimentation. The war pushed us out of our comfortable rut and accustomed us to radical dislocations.

Then, in the third place, you can't be entirely surrounded by planning and escape the virus. Where there is planning there is thinking and daring, and libraries of the future will show the effects. Take national planning like that of the National Resources Planning Board. Look what it has done to us! Look what the G.I. Bill stirred up and the specialization it has drawn us into! The planning of education has been plentiful and stimulating and particularly applicable to the library situation. Government interest, now that the veterans are pretty well planned for, seems to be largely in the field of rural education. There was a recent White House conference on rural education at which the main emphasis was put on audio-visual aids in education. That will give you another hint as to the direction in which libraries are going.

Another bit of planning at the national level with implications for the public library is a dream of Mr. MacLeish's for a world system of regional responsibility for libraries. The regional library looms large in the picture of the future.

In our own field we have had excellent planning at the top in our *Post-War Standards for Public Libraries*. The Committee on Post-War Planning is still working on the second and third volumes, and two sub-

committees, one on college library planning and one for school and children's work, are preparing standards for their groups. The Adult Education Board felt that adult education was not sufficiently pointed up in the study and will try to work out a special, more detailed plan for this type of library service. The McColvin report for the libraries of Great Britain also gives us pause with its bold plan for the consolidation of 604 libraries into 93. In connection with planning, and often designed as a basis for planning, there are surveys and reports that point the way to the future. Special committees, such as those on readable materials, work with the blind, and parent education, and special publications, like *Educational Motion Pictures and Libraries*, *Classification and Pay Plans*, and *Personnel Administration*, indicate areas in which there will be rapid development due to need.

Our emphasis on education and our feeling that it is our duty to raise the educational level of all people will lead us to bend all our efforts to creating a desire for education. It will force us to abandon our niche of neutrality and take a more positive stand on issues that should be thought about and discussed. This will take courage. We will become more aggressive, seeking out agencies and offering our help in their programs. That this is not customary was plainly evidenced by the surprise with which we were met in Chicago when we canvassed dozens of social and governmental agencies with information on our demobilization project. Just as in the case of rehabilitation, the library of the future will be ahead of other public agencies in the anticipation of needs and events and trends, and in being prepared for them. To do this we cannot be recluses, but must become members of community organizations and keep up with world affairs.

We will become more addicted to surveys and more dependent upon them for guidance. Today we have surveys, but we have no goal, no level of aspiration which we feel is possible of achievement. Our surveys of the future will be surveys of possibilities, and with them will go five-year plans. We will be careful not to set too high a goal,

and to have it set by the staff and the group we are working with instead of having it handed down from above. We will be careful not to lose sight of the needs of individual patrons while working on a large scale project. We will have advisory citizen committees to help plan and to stimulate the interest of the community in the plan. W. W. Waller in his new book, *Veteran Comes Back*, says that the best tools with which to work in rehabilitation are in ourselves and that the most useful is the sympathetic imagination. Likewise, it will be our imagination that will show us the way of the future by enabling us to project ourselves into others and to thereby know the needs to which the libraries in our keeping can attend. And Waller adds, "Be flexible in methods and inflexible in goals." The measurement of our success will be qualitative not quantitative; a comparison of possibilities with actual attainments, rather than the comparison of two years' statistics.

Because in the years ahead the most important asset of this country will be a high level of social intelligence on the part of the mass of our citizens, and because it is from books that people get ideas, you would expect me to say that the major emphasis in library work will be upon adult education. The whole library program will be more definitely aimed at an educational objective.

There are many reasons why our efforts must be largely concentrated on adult education. There is a growing realization of the fact that the new world will demand much change in attitudes, not among the underprivileged only or among the people of England or China only, but of your attitude and mine, and that this change must come through education—adult education.

There are other reasons, such as the speed of recent changes—especially social change. Combine this with our increasing longevity. In the future, even today, when the span of life is longer it would be folly to think that in some subjects what an adult learned thirty or forty years before would still be regarded as truth. Also, the need of adult education will be increased by the increase of adults in our population.

Another reason we prophets are sure of an

increase in adult education is that there will be an increased desire for it. Demobilization with its educational benefits is giving the incentive to learn and will bring to our door adults who have tasted the value of education for the first time, whose appreciation of it will be increased by a realization of their need for help in making for themselves a place in the world to which they have returned. Optimistic statisticians say that three million men will avail themselves of the G.I. educational benefits.

Our objectives in future library adult education will be about the same. In the future, however, our objectives will be backed by a greater determination to attain them. There will be more frequent redefining of objectives and reappraisal of our practices.

We will do more in the future than in the past in teaching people the skills they must have in order to become self-educated: how to study, how to read, how to use the library and its materials.

The matter of readability of material and the reading difficulties of adults will become more important, and libraries in the future will take the initiative in doing something about raising the level of reading ease and speed.

Dr. Guy Thomas Buswell, of the University of Chicago, has developed a series of lectures and demonstrations on how to teach the mechanism of reading, and says he could teach a group of librarians to do the same. I feel that the ability to read is a tool of learning just as important for us to teach as the use of the card catalogue, and that it would be valued and appreciated despite the fact that fifty-one per cent of the librarians queried by Sigrid Edge and reported in her thesis felt that having remedial reading classes in the library was entirely beyond their scope. So I predict: In the future librarians will know more about what makes reading difficult, will be able to gage more accurately the structural simplicity or difficulty of the books they recommend, and will become skilled in gaging the reading ability of the enquirer for simple texts. On the other hand, perhaps films will do the job so much better in the future that easy books will not be of so much concern as in the past.

As the crystal-gazers say, "The image is blurred here."

The subjects we emphasize will be more carefully chosen. They will be those which make for a liberal education and peace. There has been such great emphasis during the war on books of science and technology that it will be safe to predict that the pendulum will swing just as far back again to literature and the humanities.

There are signs, also, that the library will work more as a unit on any program, with the idea that this concentration of effort will make a greater impression. For instance, if racial feeling is high and adult education people feel it is desirable to focus their energies to combat it, I can imagine the same program being put on simultaneously at all branch libraries. This co-ordinated purposeful type of program is really a third step in the development of library adult education. In the first stage individual reading guidance received all the emphasis. Discussion has more recently been in the spotlight. At the last conference of the American Association for Adult Education, the emphasis was on learning by doing, especially by working co-operatively on community programs. The problems of the future will be too complex to be solved by any one agency working alone and some sort of co-operation is necessary.

What about this idea of educating for action? One of the reasons for the success of Denmark's folk schools was that the people studied to act rather than just to know. John Adams Lowe, of Rochester, suggests that future libraries will be regarded as workshops to which people will be invited to bring individual or community problems and will be helped with the aid of the experience of others. Incidentally, putting some of the demobilized servicemen to work on this sort of community activity might be killing two birds with the same stone by making them feel important. Many of them will be more conscious of the needs of sanitation and recreation facilities than they were before they left. They will be accustomed to working together on a job that needs to be done.

To know community needs we will have

to work more closely with community groups. This does not mean that individual reading guidance will not still remain the core of a library adult education program. It means that we can know the individual best through a knowledge of the groups to which he belongs. Labor people even go so far as to state that you cannot work with unions unless you are a member of a labor union. You may not feel that actual affiliation is the necessary first step in group work, but you will concede that you must know what groups exist in your community and what you can do to co-operate with them. Your staff will become working members of as many groups as they comfortably can and will visit others and know their leaders and their program plans.

We have the backing of the Library Bill of Rights that it is our "obligation to welcome the use of library quarters for socially useful and cultural activities and the discussion of current public questions," with the stipulation that "such rooms shall be available on equal terms to all groups in the community regardless of their beliefs or affiliations." More and more will it take the wisdom of a Solomon to administer this principle and see that the purpose behind it is achieved. The future librarian will also have advisory committees of community leaders who meet with him regularly, and special advisers and consultants to inform him of the needs of special groups.

Now what effect will this general concep-

Continued on Page 20

Spot News

Ernest I. Miller, president of M.L.A., has been elected to a three year term on the executive board of the Michigan Council on Education.

\$1,110.00 of the Marion Packard Trustee Fund is now invested in U. S. War Bonds, the balance of the fund being ample to meet the expenses of present plans.

By vote of the Advisory Council, the Michigan Library Association has gone on record as being opposed to compulsory military education at this time.

A University Librarian Looks Ahead

By **WARNER G. RICE**

Director, University of Michigan Libraries

Prediction is difficult in an age when the rate of change is accelerated beyond anything that history has hitherto known. Librarians, like other people, must remember that technological developments and shifts of interest may overturn many of their accepted ideas, for instance, about reading habits; and cause the replacement of books by some other form of communication within the next generation.

Social and economic conditions play a great part in the life of libraries and determine the nature of their work. Thus a fall in the national income, with a corresponding decrease in tax money, will necessitate the contraction, rather than the expansion, of library programs. Perhaps collaboration among librarians and between libraries and other agencies will be brought about only through such pressure. Certainly collaboration is needed. The libraries should not initiate a rivalry with the schools and colleges in the matter of adult education, and librarians within a given geographical area should divide the work to be done according to well defined principles. There must also be co-operation between university libraries and the new technological and scientific libraries that have sprung up during the war. This will require an increase of inter-library loan service and the application of photographic techniques to the duplication of much printed material which is no longer purchaseable.

In the larger research libraries, more specialized reference service will be needed. Many librarians should train themselves, therefore, as research assistants, especially in the sciences, pure and applied. Increase in technological publications will make necessary the provision of more catalogs, indexes, and abstracts for the guidance of research workers. Processing costs in libraries will have to be diminished, probably through centralization of effort and the introduction of production-line methods.

Mr. Fremont Rider's interesting suggestion that books be reproduced in microprint is probably not practicable but it raises a question which all large libraries have to face. Techniques for the storage and preservation of books, the discarding of unnecessary duplicates, and the consolidation of sets will occupy the attention of librarians in the immediate future. Some progress will have to be made in the allocation of fields, and for a cor-

responding division of specialized interests. Despite the attempts to limit collections by such methods, however, there will be a constant demand for books which are out of print. To meet this need librarians and publishers must work in concert. The replenishing of stocks destroyed during the war, the rehabilitation of European libraries, and the replacement of volumes printed during the last century on paper which is now disintegrating, all require new methods of approach and emphasize the need for planned acquisitions.

There is considerable likelihood that in universities and other institutions of higher learning, there will be a shift of emphasis from the humanities to the social sciences, sciences, and technologies. The natural result may be that the antiquarian collection becomes a separate library problem, and that the chief interest of most librarians will be in acquiring and making immediately available, books and documents of current interest.

Nominating Committee 1944-45

Chairman, **KATHERINE MADIGAN**, Grand Rapids Public Library. District No. 4

ELEANOR RICKER, Kalamazoo Public Library. District No. 1

F. RIDLEN HARRELL, Museums Library, Univ. of Mich., Ann Arbor. District No. 2

HELEN CAMPBELL, High School Library, Royal Oak. District No. 3

HELEN CLEARS, Hoyt Public Library, Saginaw. District No. 5

MRS. JOSEPHINE HALL, Manton Public Library, Manton, Mich. District No. 6

LYDIA KOEBBE, Public Library, Stambaugh, Mich. District No. 7

In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, Ernest I. Miller, president, has appointed this committee and it is announced at this time so that members of the Association may have opportunity to send recommendations for nominations.

The Fifty-Third Annual Conference In Review

After a lapse of two years, 293 members of the Michigan Library Association gathered for a four day conference at Grand Rapids, October 25-28.

In the opening address, Dr. Max Lerner's "Reflections on a Volcano" mirrored us as "sitting on a volcano within our own domestic future," implying that it depends upon the people of this nation whether the volcano erupts or not. He also sees a volcano in Europe: "The people of the United States must help to organize a peaceful Europe." In stimulating spirit, Dr. Lerner pointed to the responsibilities of librarians as the "keepers of the kingdom of books," emphasizing the scope of this responsibility with the statement that: "Through the world of books there is still the competition of ideas. Monopoly forces cannot enter and entrench themselves and occupy the strategic passes of the mind" as long as we have freedom through books.

In an address at the annual banquet entitled "Bricks, Brains, and Books," Rabbi Jerome Folkman referred several times to Dr. Lerner's reflections and quoted the findings of the Princeton Survey, as he emphasized the need for education of millions of citizens in the basic facts bearing directly upon their ability to acquit themselves of their civic duties in a democracy. Rabbi Folkman advocated a national campaign against ignorance. He brought to the librarians a prescription for instituting an aggressive national campaign against this wide-spread ignorance. His address is to be published in the January 1st issue of the *Library Journal*.

At the second general session of the conference the "News from the Michigan State Board for Libraries" as it was reviewed by Helen Warner, chairman of the Board, instilled confidence that progress is being made toward better library service in Michigan and gave hope for the prospects of "Planning for Michigan Libraries" as outlined by Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan, secretary of the Board.

Both speakers laid stress on the implications and the value of certification and income requirements set up by the State Board for Libraries. They pointed out that in about three years, "after July 1, 1947, any public library whose total income from all sources . . . is less than six thousand dollars, will not receive state aid unless it unites with another library or becomes part of an improved county or regional library."

Mrs. Fyan spoke of the assistance which the State Library will give in aiding libraries to meet these requirements. In speaking about plans in general, she called attention to the flexibility and immobility of plans saying, "A plan is no sooner made than it is immediately out of date and in need of changes. The State Plan is in continuous change." She said that the trend in these changes is toward "higher standards than ever before and toward larger units of library organization."

The two addresses given at the fourth general session are to be found elsewhere in this issue of *The Michigan Librarian* and Colton Storm's paper on "The Rare Book In Your Library" is being held for the March issue.

COLLEGE LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE

The college librarians meeting at the Pantlind Hotel, October 27, exhibited an increasing interest in the activities of the College Libraries Round Table. The group authorized the newly elected chairman, Margaret Gibbs, Hope College Library, to appoint a committee to analyze the activities of college libraries in Michigan with a view to appraising the college librarians of new projects and developments as well as gleaning other news items which could be published in *The Michigan Librarian*.

Jackson E. Towne, Michigan State College Library, reported on the meeting of librarians from ten midwestern colleges and universities held in Chicago on October 12. Hazel Cleveland, Western Michigan College of Education, reported on teacher-librarian courses and the requirements of certification. A short discussion followed on the practicability of teacher-librarian courses being

offered in small colleges. Margaret Gibbs told of the use of the library at Hope College by AST cadets and the effect it has had upon the civilian use of that library.

The problem of library instruction for college students was discussed. There seemed no uniformity of procedures but agreement was reached that the formerly popular library tour during orientation week or soon thereafter accomplished virtually nothing. A growing theory was noted that, for those who had time and sufficient staff, individual attention as problems arose was one of the better methods of student instruction.

JUNIOR MEMBERS ROUND TABLE

The annual meeting of the Junior Members Round Table was held Saturday morning, October 28, in the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, Mich. After a cafeteria breakfast, a business meeting was called to order by Margaret Murray, acting chairman. Seventeen members, representing eight local groups, were present.

The officers for the coming year were elected and the projects committee gave a report which was followed by a discussion of the future of the Grand Rapids project, "Michigan Authors."

Mr. Cecil McHale led a discussion of the future of the Junior Members Round Table and pointed out that one of its activities should be to make itself known and useful to the Michigan Library Association as a whole and to voice the opinions and desires of the groups represented by the Junior Members when changes or projects are under way in M.L.A.

After Mr. McHale's discussion, Alice Gustafson, chairman for 1945, adjourned the meeting.

COUNTY LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE

Certification, budgets, and annual reports were the topics discussed at the County Libraries Round Table Institute, October 28-29, following the M.L.A. conference in Grand Rapids. Librarians and trustees from fourteen county and four other libraries attended.

Mrs. Loleta Fyan, State Librarian, led the discussion on certification. The general feeling indicated that county librarians did not want the standards lowered but did hope that exceptions would be made in special cases.

Helen Clark, of the State Library staff, led the discussion concerning the new form of annual report for county libraries worked out by A.L.A. which was tried by the Michigan county libraries last spring. The group hoped to secure greater uniformity in reporting on reference work and in

showing services given to groups in the community.

The discussion of budgets was led by Mrs. Mary Kenan, Muskegon County Library. Conclusions drawn showed that financial support should not go below a certain amount if service of any value is to be given; poor service is often a direct result of inadequate funds.

Another meeting of the Round Table will be called early next spring at which time the new officers, Alta Parks and Margaret Murray, will be in charge.

LIBRARY VOCATIONAL WORKSHOPS BREAKFAST

October 26, 1944

"Always behind, never on time, just like an old cow's tail," was the greeting to stragglers in the old workshop way, as students and faculty gathered in a breakfast get-together at the Pantlind Cafeteria. About fifty participants from all of the summer of '44 workshops, Waldenwoods, Scenic Lodge, Higgins Lake, and Camp Shaw, met for informal visits and exchange of library news.

REFERENCE SECTION

At a luncheon and business meeting held in the Pantlind Hotel, October 27, the Reference Section learned about the work of the War Information Center of the Detroit Public Library from Florence Kretschmar who is in charge of the center. A short business meeting followed, and Jeanetta Sagers, Kalamazoo Public Library, turned the leadership of the section over to Lucille Harwick, newly elected chairman.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION

At a business meeting held on October 27 in the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, the School Libraries Section held a discussion led by Sarita Davis, chairman, which resulted in proposed changes in the organization of the section. A motion that the Executive Board of School Librarians be made a committee of the School Libraries Section carried.

It was proposed that the section change its name to *Advisory Council of School Librarians*. This change was referred to the M.L.A. Executive Board.

On October 28th, the section met for luncheon in the Pantlind Hotel and Mrs. Kathleen Lardie, Department of Radio Education, Detroit Board of Education, addressed the group. Her topic was "Radio and the Library."

STAFF ASSOCIATIONS LUNCHEON

The thirty-two members attending the annual staff associations luncheon held at Grand Rapids, heard Mr. Paul Smith of the Michigan Bell Telephone Co. talk on the personal touch in personnel relationships. Noting the employees' desires for security and continuity of income, for opportunities of advancement and responsibility, for a chance to develop and to use initiative, for helpful supervision and good wages, Mr. Smith emphasized the need that, in order to have the best co-operation, those on the job must know company policy, agree with its reasonableness, and see it operate in personal experience.

Katherine Madigan told of the accomplishments of the Grand Rapids Library Staff Association in bringing about closer relations between the library board and the staff, and in gaining representation on the municipal employees council.

After telling how the Wayne County Library Union has helped the employees in the transition to a library operated under civil service, Helen Hempstead, of the Wayne County Library staff, brought out the value of alliance with the people through unionism.

TRUSTEES SECTION

Miss Grace Hamilton of Cedar Springs, a trustee of the Kent County Library, spoke at the luncheon meeting of the Trustees Section. She called particular attention to the role of the library trustee as a public relations representative of the library, pointing out the need for promotion of library interests with the citizens as well as the responsibility in library finance.

CHILDREN'S SECTION

On October 27, Mrs. Virginia Keltz, Detroit Public Library, led the librarians attending the meeting of the Children's Section in a discussion of the topic, "How can we meet the problems of recruitment," which was based upon points brought out by Harriet Long in her article in *The Michigan Librarian*, June, 1944.

Further discussion led by Kathleen Cann, Detroit Public Library, on the future of this section of M.L.A., brought forth suggestions for publicity, activities, and committees to study recruitment and training for children's librarians.

During the business meeting plans were made to revise the constitution, to prepare a subject list of books to be weeded from collections, and to hold a Children's Institute in Lansing in the spring of 1945.

LENDING SECTION

Maureen Fisher, chairman, presided at the annual meeting of the Lending Section on Friday, October 27, after luncheon at the Pantlind Hotel.

After completion of the business, Miss Fisher introduced the speaker, Mrs. Marjorie Gallagher, Post Librarian, Fort Custer, Michigan, who talked on "G. I. Joe and His Library, Now and Post-war." Mrs. Gallagher showed some pictures of the Fort Custer library, told rollicking anecdotes about the experiences of a librarian with service men as patrons, giving a program that was both enlightening and entertaining to all present.

The meeting was adjourned by Mavie Bohanna, chairman for 1945.

CATALOG SECTION

The Michigan Regional Group of Cataloguers held a luncheon on October 27 in the Amber Suite at the Pantlind. Following the social gathering, the officers for the coming year were elected.

Book Demobilization Plan

A plan to salvage army camp library books and use them in starting rural public libraries has been proposed to the Surplus Property Administration and to Congress by Carl Vitz, president of the American Library Association.

"With demobilization, many camps will be closed," said Mr. Vitz, "and millions of books will become surplus property.

"The proposal of the American Library Association," Mr. Vitz continued, "is that the surplus books, articles of library equipment, and other library materials be transferred to the states and territories, for the use of the people without libraries or with very limited library facilities, as the best means of conserving the Government's investment in them.

"It is proposed that the books be allotted to the states by the U. S. Office of Education in proportion to each state's rural population; that they be allotted to counties and groups of counties within the states by the official state library extension agencies; that some funds be appropriated by the Federal Government to assist in making the books immediately available to the people through organized libraries; and that there be no federal control of libraries within the states."

Mr. Vitz urged that "the reading and study needs of the men and their families be not forgotten when they return to their homes."

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

When the Michigan State-Aid Act was enacted in 1937, it was recognized that, in order to render reasonably good library service, a unit must be sufficiently large to receive adequate financial support. To encourage units with small income to combine, the Act provided that after 1948 no payment of grants-in-aid would be made to libraries with less than \$6,000 annual income. The 1948 deadline is now rapidly approaching and we must take steps to encourage those libraries which will be affected to unite in order that they may continue to receive the benefit of state aid. The planning committee has been given the task of outlining for us the steps the association should take to bring about larger units of service. The number of libraries affected is not overly large and we need not feel that the deadline cannot be met.

Since its organization in 1891, the Michigan Library Association has devoted much of its energy to promoting libraries. The object of the Association, as stated in its constitution, is "to promote the library interests of the State of Michigan." Active membership is open to anyone who may be interested in this goal. Engrossed by our missionary zeal to put books into all unserved areas, we have sometimes overlooked our responsibility to work for adequate salaries and high professional standards. The time has not yet arrived when we can turn our attention completely from library extension to promoting professional interests. We must recognize, however, that the State Board for Libraries and an energetic State Library, are more and more taking the initiative in "promoting the library interests of the State of Michigan." There is a growing body of professional librarians, not only in the schools and colleges, but also in the public libraries, who must be given benefits from association other than "more libraries for more people." These benefits should consist in part, in working for adequate salary standards and standards of training and knowledge to merit such compensation. In the admirable surveys conducted by our Salary, Staff, and Tenure Committee, we have the basis of a program of action. We are hopeful that an increased state-aid grant will provide some means for remedying excessively low salaries. A proposed municipal retirement act may give us an opportunity to work for pension benefits. The recommendations outlined in the report of last year's Education Com-

mittee, furnish a basis for a broad training program. Before next year's conference, we hope to report some achievement.

In the committee work of the association, it is not possible to give each member a chance to demonstrate his capabilities. There are six standing committees and six or seven special committees, with a total membership of approximately 150. Thus, not more than 15% of our members are, during a year, engaged in association committee work. To obtain a wider participation, we must look to the district organizations and to the sections and round tables. I hope that each section and round table will embark on a program that will offer its members an opportunity for some professional contribution. To eliminate duplication of effort between committees and sections, the Executive Board has asked one of its members-at-large, Miss Katherine Harris, to keep in touch with these divisions, in order that we may be advised of their programs.

Elections Committee Report

The Elections Committee on September 18 and 19, 1944 mailed 934 ballots to members of the Michigan Library Association.

Friday, October 6, the committee met at the home of Miss Helen Cooper in Flint to count the ballots.

The count showed that 488 ballots were voted, with the following officers elected:

President	Ernest Miller
First Vice-President	Adeline Cooke
Second Vice-President	Lucille Monroe
Secretary	Hazel DeMeyer
Treasurer	Norma McDonald
Members of Executive Board .	{ Katharine Harris Viola Fitch
A.L.A. Councilor	Eudocia Stratton

Respectfully submitted,

ALICE BRADY, *chairman*

Query on Hospital Library Service

Will libraries doing work with hospitals on any basis whatsoever, or planning to give such service during the course of the year, please communicate with Ruth Dancer, chairman, Hospital Libraries Round Table. They would like to know:

1. Is the service on a volunteer basis?
2. How many hospitals are served, type of patient, and number of beds?
3. Title and name of staff members who give such service.

The Ritter Bequest

Reported by ADELINE COOKE

Baldwin Public Library
Birmingham, Michigan

Mr. Ritter's \$1000.00 has been started on its way toward buying reference books for small libraries and probably some of the books are even now in use. Twenty towns are having the fun of putting on their library shelves some bright new books, more or less expensive, which they had not expected to own. But the other 123 towns, which hoped and did not receive, are disappointed. Perhaps some day there may be another chance.

The letters which came to the committee told stories of valiant struggle and accomplishment. For instance, this: "We worked ten years to get an appropriation for a library so when we did secure it, we felt under obligation to buy the books people most wanted to read. Now we feel disgraced when someone asks for a reference book which should be in every library, particularly a dictionary or encyclopedia." Or this: "Our school burned a year ago in March and every book was lost. Now there is a new building but I understand that a dictionary and Standard Encyclopedia are the only books in the library. It appears the one and only public library in the county, located here, will be overburdened, serving not only the pupils and teachers of the city schools, but also the various country schools of the county." (This, remember, is from a library having an annual income of less than \$2500.00.)

It is alarming to know how many libraries and schools have very old dictionaries and encyclopedias, or none at all. Many libraries are making their first purchases of basic reference works in biography, history, and science. So many expressed a desire to have *Who's who in America* that I wondered if some of us who have bought *Who Was Who* could give away recent volumes no longer needed.

Interesting requests were for music material because of a music colony nearby, hobby books because the young people who hadn't even a movie to attend needed entertainment, globes on standards, books on nature study and local history for summer visitors, and books in the Lakes Series.

These small libraries are scattered all over the state, some of them very close to you and to me. Let's look out for them as well as we can and thus extend Mr. Ritter's gift beyond his generous \$1000.00.

LIBRARIES WHICH RECEIVED AWARDS

Buchanan	Mackinaw City
Centerline	Millwood
Dexter	N. Adams
East Detroit	Paw Paw
Edmore	Rose City
Elk Rapids	Shelby
Galien	Sutton's Bay
Harbor Springs	Vassar
Kalkaska	Wakefield
L'Anse	West Branch

Teacher-Librarian Institute Waldenwoods, Sept. 22-24, 1944

The Teacher-Librarian's Institute opened on Friday evening with reminiscences by Cecil J. McHale, the then president of M.L.A. The anticipated attendance of 20 was more than quadrupled by a total enrollment of 95.

For the Saturday program, the group divided into elementary and high school units for discussions led by four trained librarians and pointed toward practical solutions of teacher-librarian problems. The services of the State Library were emphasized and copies of the revised *Basic Book List* were distributed. Publicity hints were discussed.

Mrs. Ruth Toozee, whose energetic faith in the power of books is inspirational, brought to Waldenwoods a large exhibit of books from the Book Box, Evanston, Ill. She urged that books be read in terms of life, not as "oughts" or as a duty, and advocated that grade levels be ignored.

Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan, State Librarian, in "A Look Ahead" spoke of the desirability of a statewide system of library service reaching every person in Michigan. She found the teacher-librarians rich in new ideas gained at the institute which could not all be put into practice at once; each individual, being charged with the responsibility of sorting, must choose the ideas needed most in her school. Mrs. Fyan pointed out the benefits of continued participation in professional groups such as the M.L.A. School Libraries Section and she urged that the teacher-librarians make use of the State Library consultant and extension services, and keep informed of the professional activities and opportunities through reading *The Michigan Librarian*, the *State Library News Letter*, and the *Wilson Bulletin*.

The enthusiasms of the group resulted in a recommendation that two institutes be conducted next year, one being scheduled for the northern part of the state.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

October 30, 1944

Dear Miss Swan:

The October issue of the *Michigan Librarian* presents the varied comments received in response to my article, "The Status of the Children's Librarian," published in the June number. As author of the article, and so-called "devil's advocate," it is incumbent on me to consider the comments carefully and to reply promptly. In general the remarks may be grouped into three chief criticisms:

(1) The problem of low salaries is not one needing correction for children's librarians only. Therefore, let us attack the problem on a broad front—for all librarians.

The emphasis in the article is on the *relative* pay of children's librarians. The situation might be considered analogous to that of the elementary teacher in the public schools. The struggle for the single salary schedule, successful in an increasing number of communities, has not meant unconcern over the low pay of teachers in general. The elementary teacher is rebelling against an injustice within her profession which limits her salary and standing because she prefers to work with children.

(2) Do children's librarians have a legitimate claim to being specialists in a way that their co-workers do not, such as workers in reference departments and in special subject departments?

To accurately evaluate all specialization within a public library system, including reference departments and special subject divisions is a large and ticklish task, and perhaps beyond the point at issue. But in smaller city libraries and in branches of large systems, service to children is a large proportion of the total service, and is the responsibility of the children's librarian in charge, who has had special training for it. Her low salary and status, (Detroit aside!) in relation to that of the other members of the staff is the point at issue.

(3) Children's librarians should persist in the exercise of special gifts even though material gains are sacrificed, and should cultivate something of the pioneer spirit of the founders of children's work.

It might be questioned whether this sacrificial spirit should be expected of children's librarians to any greater degree than of others in the library profession. And do we pay tribute to the founders of children's work if we imply that after all their worthy effort our profession continues to remain in the pioneer stage?

Sincerely yours,
Harriet G. Long

Michigan's Experimental Adult Education Plan

by GLADYS E. MILLER

Consultant in Adult Education
Battle Creek Public School Library
Battle Creek, Michigan
(under State plan)

The Michigan plan for an experimental program in adult education is in conformance with Act 46 of Public Acts of 1944. For the purpose of carrying on the program the Michigan State Legislature appropriated \$250,000.00 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945, to be under the supervision of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, by and with the consent of the Governor and of an educational advisory committee of not more than fifteen members to be appointed by the Governor.

Some of the general characteristics of the program are no entrance requirements, no required courses, voluntary attendance, freedom in choice of method and technique and in the selection of content. Attention will be given to needs and wants of communities in terms of informal and incidental education as well as classes and courses.

Local programs may embrace one or all of the five areas suggested by the State Department of Public Instruction. These five areas cover a broad field, probably as broad as are any community's needs, and they are: (1) Social-civic education; (2) Home and family living education; (3) Avocational and cultural education; (4) Vocational and occupational education; (5) Foundational education. The last mentioned includes Americanization classes for the foreign-born; government, history, English, etc.

One of the first prerequisites to a successful program is a trained and experienced professional educator as director or leader, with sufficient time to work co-operatively and constructively with the various organizations, clubs, and groups in a community. Through this type of co-operation the needs and interests of a community can be ascertained and served. Also important to success is the need for a competent supporting staff, the size of which will depend upon the community's demand.

Reimbursement by the State Department of Public Instruction to school districts will be for personnel salaries to the extent of 75%, the remaining 25% to come from local funds.

Michigan Library Association

Estimated Income 1945

Bank balance December 1, 1944	\$3247.86
(Incl. Scholarship Fund and Marion Packard Fund)	
Outstanding checks	19.18
	<hr/>
Balance December 1, 1944	3228.68
Scholarship Fund	312.76
Marion Packard Fund	1993.15
	<hr/>
"	2305.91
	<hr/>
Cash balance December 1, 1944	\$ 922.77
Accounts receivable—1944	
Advertising	213.75
Estimated receipts—1945	
Dues	
Personal	1760.00
Institutional	200.00
Total	1960.00
Advertising	700.00
Space Rental	350.00
Subscriptions	10.00
Registrations	150.00
	<hr/>
TOTAL.....	\$4306.52

Michigan Library Association

Budget for 1945

1. A.L.A. Sustaining Membership	\$ 100.00
2. Convention	400.00
3. Sections and Round Tables (10)	150.00
(Children's, Lending, Reference, Trustees, School Libraries, Cataloging, College, County, Hospital, Juniors)	
4. Committees	
Legislative	\$ 150.00
Education for Library Service and Institutes	
Education for Library Service.....	35.00
Institutes	150.00
Teacher-Librarians	100.00
	<hr/>
	285.00
Membership	50.00
Salary, Staff and Tenure	35.00
Elections	40.00
Publications (Incl. 5 issues of the Michigan Librarian)	1800.00
Committees	360.00
(Planning, Nominating, Exhibits, Public Relations, Federal Aid, Staff Assoc., Adult Education, Dues, Scholarship, and others)	
	<hr/>
	Total.... 2720.00
5. Districts	105.00
6. Executive Board & Advisory Council	250.00
7. Clerical Aid for Officers	150.00
8. Telephone and Telegraph	50.00
9. Postage and Express	150.00
10. Stationery and Supplies	130.00
11. Bank Service Charges	10.00
12. Treasurer's Bonding Fee	5.00
	<hr/>
	TOTAL....\$4220.00

BEHIND THE STACKS

By GEORGE GILFILLAN

Steaming to do their best to become *en rapport* with the cultured atmosphere of M.L.A.'s fifty-third conference, officials of the good old Pere Marquette dusted and included the "Louisa Alcott" among the Pullmans conveying librarians to Grand Rapids.

Our roving reporters, Mmes. Miriam Lyne and Esther Hooper, tell us that their trip was worth leaving home for. We've congratulated Miriam on being elected secretary-treasurer of the Michigan Regional Group of Cataloguers and we've enjoyed hearing about the excellent exhibits and Grand Rapids hospitality.

We would like to have visited Gaylord Bros., in Pantlind's bridal suite where good fellowship was on tap.

* * *

The young and growing Michigan Chapter, Special Libraries Association, moved towards closer relations with their M.L.A. brethren when, at their Oct. 25th meeting, they authorized President W. L. Powlison to send a message of greeting to the Grand Rapids conference.

* * *

Library life in Kalamazoo is not without its perils. City Librarian Jeanne Griffin found those annoying drafts in the reference room due to large cracks in the wall. After a critical inspection, building inspector Andrew C. Leak said that supporting columns may have to be placed in the center of the room; all because a quantity of books were transferred recently to the room above reference.

And now Miss Griffin contemplates a new building to replace the stone structure built in 1893. With 140,000 volumes, hospital library service for five hospitals, film service for elementary schools, Miss Griffin has a good case for new and draftless walls.

* * *

Also in Ka'zoo, Lillian Anderson has a daily treasure hunt when she opens returned books. Ration books, five dollar bills are among salvaged valuables. Last month the prize treasure turned up in the shape of a dried fish used as a

bookmark. This column's most intimate adviser asked: "Was it a read 'erring'?"

* * *

Congratulations to Otsego Public Library, whose centennial was observed Nov. 13 with a tea and a musical and literary program.

* * *

Rudolph Gjelsness has returned to the University of Michigan as director of the library school. He is succeeded as director-librarian of the Benjamin Franklin Library in Mexico City by Dr. Harold W. Bentley, associate director of Columbia University Press.

* * *

More than 100 librarians attended the tenth annual conference of the Library Binding Institute, Nov. 15, at the Statler in Detroit.

On the program were Ralph A. Ulveling, Charles M. Mohrhardt, Ernest I. Miller, of the Detroit Public Library; Donald W. Kohlstadt, Grand Rapids; Mrs. Loleta D. Fyan, State Librarian; Cecil J. McHale, University of Michigan, and Paul A. T. Noon, Lansing.

* * *

After 17 years as head of work with children and schools at Hackley Public Library, Muskegon, Mabel B. Moore has retired and now makes her home at Elyria, Ohio.

Miss Moore's library career included 10 years with Detroit Public Library and three with Ohio State Library. At Muskegon she won the interest and friendship of adults and children alike. She was active in M.L.A. committee work and, 1942-43, was secretary of District 4.

Katherine Doran is Miss Moore's successor at Muskegon.

* * *

Following some five years of laborious work, the *Union List of Serials* for Detroit area libraries is approaching publication stage.

Directed by Mabel L. Conat, Detroit Public Library, this project has benefited from WPA assistance and the constant attention of public, university, and special librarians.

Miss Conat reported progress at the October meeting of the Michigan Chapter, Special Libraries Association, and asked for volunteers to aid final checking of lists and preparation for publication.

* * *

Leslie I. Poste, who did part-time work at Detroit Public Library, 1932-40, has an extensive study of the United States Armed Forces Institute in the *Library Journal* of Oct. 1.

The Michigan Librarian

Frances Hannum, past chairman of the Scholarship Fund, announces a \$25.00 post-conference donation to the Scholarship Fund by Mr. Norman Bassett, Demco Library Supplies and Library Research Service.

* * *

While returning from a meeting in the dark of night on a country highway and driving a Wayne County Library car, Helen Hempstead was followed. She turned a turn. Still she was followed. When she had turned several turns without turning her pursuer aside, she decided that being unarmed it would be unwise to drive down the dark alley to the garage. Instead she pulled up on W. Gd. Blvd. in front of her apartment, a well lighted spot where rescue would be close at hand. The other car parked behind her.

Traffic rules sped through her brain when she saw a man in uniform advancing from the rear. What had she done! Quickly she abandoned all thoughts of the hatpin technique and decided that tact and talk were her needed weapons.

She opened the door to, "Can you tell me how I can get library service in Redford Township?"

* * *

Postwar Information Exchange, Inc., announces publication of *Postwar Information Bulletin*, a clearing house of the pooled information resources of more than 40 research and educational agencies dealing with national and international postwar problems.

The *Bulletin* will select and describe materials valuable for group study and will digest significant national and international material with ideas for study and discussion. It will be printed monthly at the annual rate of one dollar. Orders should be sent to the Exchange, 8 West 40th St., New York City 18.

* * *

The Council of National Library Associations, representing both Canada and the United States, has created a Joint Committee for Books for Devastated and Other Libraries in War Areas to effect a concerted national program of aid to war damaged libraries.

Milton E. Lord, Boston Public Library, is chairman of the executive committee.

* * *

This column would like to hear about your problems. It would like to hear what you want to read in the *Michigan Librarian* and what you think M.L.A. can and should do for you.

On Defending the Freedom To Read In Libraries

Every librarian hates censorship. His decision to add a book or periodical to the collection is not arbitrary but is based on the conviction that the book is of value and interest to his patrons. Once he has made his decision in accordance with that policy, he should not be overruled by persons who want to prevent others from reading what they themselves disapprove of. This type of interference in library operation is frequently accompanied by threats so serious as to force the librarian to accede to it. Whenever he does accede he reluctantly restricts the freedom to read. Such action is directly contrary to the principles he believes in; that's why he hates censorship.

The A.L.A.'s Committee on Intellectual Freedom has been empowered by the executive board and council to compile a record of attempts, successful or not, to interfere with the library's provision of any book or periodical. To do this, it must have the help of the libraries. We therefore ask that you report to us any incident in your community where someone or some group or organization attempted to interfere with the provision of a book or magazine. We'd like to know:

Book or periodical affected
Persons or organization interfering
Action taken or threatened by interfering agency
Action taken or contemplated by the library

We shall not make this information public without your permission.

Please send all information to Leon Carnovsky, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Illinois, the chairman of the Committee on Intellectual Freedom. Other members of the committee are Mrs. J. Periam Danton, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mr. Frederic G. Melcher, editor of *Publishers' Weekly*, New York City; Mr. Jens Nyholm, librarian of Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.; Miss Ruth Rutzen, chief of the circulation department, Detroit Public Library, Detroit, Mich.; and Mrs. George H. Tomlinson, trustee of the Evanston Public Library, Evanston, Ill.



AW^{CO} BOOKS

on The

Rue List for Primary Grades



Bannon, Laura	MANUELA'S BIRTHDAY	\$2.00	PS
Deming, Mrs. Therese	LITTLE EAGLE	0.90	1-2
	INDIANS IN WINTER CAMP	1.00	2-3
	RED PEOPLE OF THE WOODED COUNTRY	1.25	3
Friskey, Mrs. Margaret	SURPRISE ON WHEELS	1.00	PS
Henry, Mrs. Marguerite	AUNO AND TAUNO	1.00	PS
Lindman, Mrs. Maj. Jan	FLICKA RICKA DICKA AND THE DOTTED DRESSES	1.00	PS
	FLICKA RICKA DICKA AND THE THREE KITTENS	1.00	PS
	SNIPP SNAPP SNURR AND THE BUTTERED BREAD	1.00	PS
	SNIPP SNAPP SNURR AND THE YELLOW SLED	1.00	PS
	SNIPP SNAPP SNURR AND THE RED SHOES	1.00	PS
Morgenstern, Elizabeth	THE LITTLE GARDENERS	1.00	PS
Nelson, Mary Jarman	FUN WITH MUSIC	1.50	M
Nida, William Lewis	THE TREE BOYS	0.90	2
	FLEETFOOT THE CAVE BOY	1.00	2-3
Ritter, Mathilde	IN THE MOUSE'S HOUSE	1.00	PS

A. W. Co. Books on The Rue List for Intermediate Grades

Bowman, James Cloyd	TALES FROM A FINNISH TUPA	2.50	5-7
Brock, Emma	HIGH IN THE MOUNTAINS	2.00	4-6
Cannon, James L.	HOOFBEATS	1.50	P
Deming, Mrs. Therese	INDIANS OF THE PUEBLOS	1.50	4-6
Fed'l Writers Project, New York	BIRDS OF THE WORLD	1.75	PI
	WHO'S WHO IN THE ZOO	2.00	PI
	REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS	2.25	PI
Jones, Viola	PETER AND GRETCHEN	1.50	3-5
Kelly, Raymond	O-GO THE BEAVER	1.50	6-7
Kristoffersen, Eva M.	HANS CHRISTIAN OF ELSINORE	2.00	3-5
Lee, Mrs. Melicent H.	MARCOS, A MOUNTAIN BOY OF MEXICO	1.50	4-6P
Mabry, Caroline	OVER THE CASTLE WALLS	1.00	3-5
Nida, William Lewis	INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES OF ANCIENT TIMES	1.25	5-8
Peck, Anne Merriman	YOUNG AMERICANS FROM MANY LANDS	2.00	5-7
Pelzel, Helene	NANKA OF OLD BOHEMIA	2.00	5-6
Reely-Randall	THROUGH GOLDEN WINDOWS	2.00	4-6
Ratzesberger, Anna	CAMEL BELLS	2.00	4-6

ALBERT WHITMAN & COMPANY

560 West Lake Street
Chicago 6, Illinois

PROFESSIONAL BOOKS

Edited by **BETTY PAULUS**

Davis, Mrs. Winifred Lemon

Pictorial Library Primer. Madison, Wis. Library Research Service. Division of Demco Library Supplies, 1944. \$.99

Simple directions for procedures and routines in small libraries manned by untrained and volunteer librarians.

The Library in the Community: Papers presented before the Library Institute at the University of Chicago, August 23-28, 1943, edited by Leon Carnovsky and Lowell Martin, Chicago. University of Chicago Press. 238p. \$2.50

Seventeen specialists in various fields including sociology, city planning, education, and labor have written to emphasize changing trends. Whether your library's location is urban, rural, or suburban, these are thought provoking articles, concerned with your library's place as an active or passive force in social questions.

McHale, Cecil J.

Directory of the Association of American Library Schools. 1943. Ann Arbor, Mich. The Edwards Letter Shop, 711 North University Ave. 1944. 42p. mimeograph [apply]

Identifies who is giving instruction in library science in the accredited library schools of the United States and Canada.

Section I: Accredited Library Schools and their faculties.

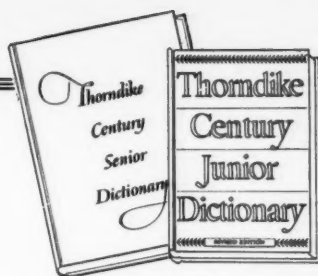
Section II: Instructors and courses taught.

Section III: Courses and subjects and their instructors.

Sweeney, Mary A.

Today's Handbook for Librarians. Chicago, American Library Association. 1944. 100p. Planographed. \$1.00

An important war-time aid for civilian or military patrons. Lists of defines agencies concerned with industrial employment; vocational guidance and training; rehabilitation; U. S. Armed Forces; social and emotional problems. The author is a trained guidance worker and Director of Occupational Guidance of the St. Paul Public Library. Appendix has an annotated bibliography arranged by subject.



Recommended

by Subscription Books Bulletin,
of the A. L. A., Vol. XII, No. 3

★ ★ ★

Scott, Foresman and Company
623 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5

Please send me the THORNDIKE DICTIONARY
PROSPECTUS (No. 1782)

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School Address

(If twp. or dist. give name or No.)

City Zone..... County.....

State

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Our Local Offices are at your Service



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Detroit—Escanaba—Flint—Grand Rapids
Jackson—Kalamazoo—Lansing—Saginaw

PREBOUND BOOKS

Will Be In Circulation When Your
Readers Want Them

The present higher cost of rebinding
is the best reason to buy all books
subject to hard usage in

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Library Specialists

SPRINGFIELD 3, MASSACHUSETTS

Any Book—Of Any Publisher—In Any Binding

Continued from Page 6

tion of the library's place in the community have on our thinking about administration, personnel, buildings, activities, and techniques? There is bound to be more functional division of materials, arrangement by interest rather than by the usual scholarly classification. This will result in departmental libraries when the collection is large, and in alcoves or special shelves in branches and smaller libraries. The future library will function as a closely knit unit with plans made and executed by all the professional members of the staff, with each division of the work supervised and co-ordinated by a specialist armed with authority, with the delegation of special tasks to departments and individuals best fitted to do them, and co-operation on the part of all others. Every change of policy will be accompanied by full staff information and understanding. Staff suggestions will be encouraged. There will be more self-testing to see if we have approximated our goal. We will not leave unchallenged the statement that sixty to eighty per cent of the library patronage comes for rec-

reation, but will make a survey of the activities of the circulation and reference rooms and determine what proportion of our energy is spent on worthwhile projects.

At the present time we are going through a period of extreme effort to attract people to the library and interest them in educational reading. To this end we have initiated a stream of activities previously unknown in libraries. The small library will not ape the larger in the matter of activities. It will not put on films because people like pictures or because Detroit is doing it. It will weigh each carefully from the standpoint of its value to the community.

I do want to say a good word, however, for the value of some of these activities as recreation. Even though the future accent will be on education, we cannot forget our obligation as a recreation agency. In fact, the loss of the neighborhood in large cities and the alarming increase in the tavern in all parts of the country point to the need for community centers with a higher level of satisfaction, and some libraries with adequate space might do well to have more rather than less to offer in recreation.

We do not need to say much about the buildings of the future because Mr. Lowe gives us such a perfect photograph in *The Library of Tomorrow*. They will be designed for use and convenience rather than as monuments. Buildings will be permanent, built with an eye to convertability for other purposes, especially in cities where neighborhoods change quickly. They will be provided with an auditorium, sound-proof rooms for recordings and talking books, more open shelves, and a browsing room. Old buildings will be less sacred and many a situation will be saved by the removal of a wall or the installation of a sliding door. The general aim will be informality and practicality.

One of the biggest changes will come in our feeling about personnel. A line in the policy statement presented in October by the Adult Education Board to the A.L.A. Council is significant: "The library must project its personnel and books into the planning and thinking of the community as never before if the experience and knowledge represented by these resources are to have their

effect on the planning and thinking of the community." This sentence implies that personnel will be considered a most valuable resource, second only to our books. As such it will be more carefully selected. Library schools will be better able to prepare their students for library positions because libraries will give them job specifications on which to build their curriculums. In-service training will be continuous and for all, beginning with an orientation course for newcomers. There will be refresher courses on techniques, courses on interviewing (a skill needed by desk attendants as well as advisers), on community agencies, on the literature of special subjects. There will be courses to stimulate individual thinking on policy matters. University, state, and regional libraries will do much in the way of institutes and workshops to demonstrate the use of new materials and techniques. Library time will be provided for reading professional literature and handling new books, and there will be continuous effort to tap previously untouched resources of ability of staff members.

When it comes to publicity we trust that not too far in the future we can save some of the energy we now spend in trying to sell the public library as a library and concentrate on informing the public on what is available to them in that library. We will have learned to focus our publicity on those who need it. We will realize that it is more important to hold a patron than to get him in the first place; we will be constantly on watch for little misunderstandings and will insist on patience and friendliness at the desk. Library exhibits will be more professional, will be planned by regional experts and rotated through libraries of the region.

The primary service, the most difficult service the library has to perform, is that of book selection. There can never be any certified list of best titles. Those selected by individual libraries must be those best qualified to meet the objectives proposed for the American people by the National Resources Planning Board: the right to education for work, for citizenship, for personal growth and happiness; the right to rest, recreation, and adventure; and the opportunity

to enjoy life and take part in an advancing civilization. Titles will be selected with these broad aims in mind but will vary with the nature, education, experience of potential readers, local interests, problems and demands of cultural institutions, programs and holdings of other libraries. The bulk of the book fund will be spent on circulating books. There will be fewer titles of fiction purchased, due to the growth of book clubs, rental libraries, and 25¢ reprints; but there will be greater duplication of important titles of fiction and socially important non-fiction. The mass demand for reading to aid in adjustment may have to be met by the publication of millions of copies of simple texts selling for a few cents apiece. Perhaps the men used to this in the army will demand it of libraries and be impatient of reserve lists. Libraries may have to sell these textbooks as some of us now sell pamphlets.

Many of the reference books and non-fiction titles for the scholarly or technical reader and titles rarely called for will be secured from the state or regional library. All book buying and circulation will be on a broader area basis, beginning with the co-operative buying of special collections. Well-rounded collections will be a thing of the past. Our personal satisfaction in completeness will suffer, but the community will gain in having books that are one hundred per cent useful.

We will part more quickly and easily with books no longer usable. The pain of this parting will be somewhat alleviated by our being able to find a good home for them in a central warehouse. We will get over some of our instinctive reverence for books as books and will discard more freely. What will hurt us most will be that the yardstick of usefulness may often demand that we sacrifice the literary and beautiful for the books that will be read and understood. We will take Raymond Clapper's advice to "never overestimate the people's knowledge or underestimate their intelligence." Our collection will be criticized, as always, perhaps more so in the years ahead when all signs point to growing intolerance, but we will hew to the principles laid down in our new Library Bill of Rights to the effect that

selection shall not be influenced by the race or nationality or political or religious views of the writers, and that, so far as available material permits, all sides of questions on which there is difference of opinion will be fairly and adequately represented in our purchases.

When we think of book selection we must remember that only ten to twenty per cent of the people in the country really read books; perhaps half of that number read books from the library, and only seventy per cent of what library books they do read have any educational value. These facts will show why audio-visual aids will bulk so large in the future selection of materials and why we now include them in our thinking under the word books. Talking books for the blind will be increased because of war casualties. The stereoscope people are even now embarking on fascinating sets for teaching algebra and geometry. Recordings have made their value felt in musicals and more libraries of the future will circulate them. The educational sound film has also proved its worth in the communication of ideas to the semiliterate; and with large companies interested in developing the right kind of film, no library will long be able to sidestep its use. The film forum will be a commonplace in library activities. In addition to using films for our own programs, we will assume responsibility for acting as distribution agents and information centers for other agencies and groups wishing to use films. Film slides, maps, charts, graphs, globes, shadow-boxes, records with headphones on turntables will also assist in the imparting of knowledge and pleasure. I see very vividly, also, a regular preview of new pictures under library auspices. I see film manufacturers routing with the films a short description and discussion outline. I see another showing, perhaps semimonthly, of a group of suitable films on a particular subject to which a special interested group will be invited. The army medical library in Washington is now sending, free except for postage, microfilms of important periodical articles on medical research "because this permits source material to be most economically and widely placed at the disposal of those engaged in medical research." What a wealth

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of suggestions that opens to librarians!

Despite the fact that the A.L.A. questionnaire on pamphlet selling showed plainly that most public libraries felt it inadvisable, I am still stubbornly convinced that this will be a service that will be taken for granted. What films may do for the illiterate, pamphlets do for the partially literate non-reading portion of the public and for those in the higher education brackets who wish authoritative information on many subjects.

In the future, the measuring stick of usefulness will be applied to all functions. The measuring rod will have to be devised for, so far, we have no satisfactory one. A collection of books will be sent to a group and no record kept of individual loans. There will be more book collections loaned to camps, conferences of social workers, and labor meetings. All quantity restrictions will be removed from individual loans. The bookmobile will be commonplace. It will bring the library closer to all inhabitants of the town and surrounding country.

I have spent most of my time on the trend toward greater emphasis on education as contrasted with the recreational services of the library. The other noticeable trend is that of co-operation between libraries of a given area larger than the corporate limits of any city. The Chicago Metropolitan Library Council represents libraries of all types in five counties. Its proposed program is lending of books, interchange of library cards, the employment of experts on a joint basis one day a week, provision for service to now unserved areas, a bibliographic center, and a union catalogue of holdings. Westchester County, New York, is already doing just that. Many state libraries are working toward state service. The Illinois program is pretty well perfected and partly in operation. Forty-five states studied in a recent survey felt it was the duty of the state to give free library service to all through a strong central agency, county and regional libraries, closer integration of schools and public libraries, co-operation in the collection of research material, and suitable legislation to implement the program. Regional warehouses will be necessary. Central performance of routines will be common.

I suspect that some of you may feel I am a bit "teched," if not downright crazy, to talk about discussion programs, film showings, and special reading guidance, when it's all you can do to take care of the youngsters after school, man the circulation desk, and keep the books on the shelves. Well, as someone has said, "You don't have to be crazy but it helps." Really, I'm perfectly serious and have deliberately put the emphasis on what the future will bring rather than on what you are now able to accomplish. I know you will have to have help. There are several reasons for feeling that help is on the way. Dr. Alvin Johnson, in the *New York Times* in September, said that public support of adult education will come when it is understood that without a highly developed system of adult education, liberal democracy will languish. The *National Resources Development Report for 1943* recommends that four times as much money be appropriated for libraries as in 1940. Guy Reed, vice-president of the Harris Trust Bank in Chicago, told the A.L.A. that intelligent people are much concerned over the necessity for mass education and that a definite, concrete, workable proposal for such education would win the gratitude of industrialists and that money would be forthcoming to carry it through. Several state legislatures this year have increased their money for libraries and others will follow.

You will note that I have not touched on children's work. Certainly children's work will not stand still. It will follow much the same pattern as adult work. There will be the same careful scrutiny of goals, the same emphasis on work with the individual, the same utilization of new materials and techniques. In recreational activities and in education for action, children's work far out-distances adult work now. The most important development will probably be greater coordination between the two departments to prevent that loss of contact which now occurs at the young adult age.

In all, we have a great opportunity in the years ahead, and I want to close by expressing my faith that if the American public library has the vision, it will be given the power and the substance to create the ideal it envisages.

Fellowships and Scholarships

University of Chicago

The Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago has announced several fellowships and scholarships for the 1945-46 academic year.

Three fellowships of \$1,000 each are offered for advanced study leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees.

Two full-tuition (\$300) and two half-tuition (\$150) scholarships are offered for professional study leading to the Bachelor of Library Science degree.

Applicants for fellowships and scholarships should write to the Graduate Library School, The University of Chicago, Chicago 37, Illinois. Fellowship applications must be in the hands of the Dean of the Graduate Library School by March 10, 1945, and scholarship applications by June 1, 1945.

University of Illinois

Several scholarships and assistantships will be available for graduate students in Library Science at the University of Illinois for the academic year 1945-46. Candidates must hold an A.B. degree from an accredited college and a degree or certificate for the first year of professional study in librarianship from an accredited library school. Applications should be addressed to R. B. Downs, Director, University of Illinois Library School, Urbana, Illinois.

The Katharine L. Sharp Scholarship provides \$300 for the year and exemption from tuition fees. Applications for this scholarship should be filed no later than February 15, 1945.

University scholarships carry a stipend of \$350 and exemption from the payment of the usual tuition. They are open only to candidates who are not over thirty years of age at the time when the appointment is to be made. Applications must be filed not later than February 1, 1944.

Part-time assistantships in various departments of the University Library and in some departmental libraries will be available to graduate students. Applications should be filed as soon as possible and no later than May 1, 1945.

Mr. Ralph A. Ulveling, librarian of the Detroit Public Library, addressed the Michigan Unit of the Catholic Library Association, on Sunday, December 10, at the Dominican High School. His subject was "The Modern Library In Action."

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